

Lancaster Intelligencer.

SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 10, 1880.

A Disgusting Spectacle.

Somebody in Philadelphia has gone to the trouble to prepare a petition to Governor Hoyt, asking him to remove Secretary of State Quay, upon the ground that he was shown by the testimony taken before the legislative committee of inquiry into the riot bill bribery matter, to have been one of the chief lobby agents engaged in that nefarious business. The petition assumes that such a man should not be secretary of the state of Pennsylvania and a member of the pardoning board which decides upon the application of his convicted fellow criminals for pardon. The petition further asks the governor to resist the effort that is being made to remove from office the attorney general because he will not assent to Kemble's pardon.

This petition has not been prepared, as we assume, with any idea that it will avail to present it to Governor Hoyt, but with the intent to expose in this shape the association of Secretary Quay with the convicted criminals and to invite the attention of the people to the abominable fact that the secretary of state, a member of the pardon board, was a confederate of criminals whom he has voted to pardon. No one probably is foolish enough to think that Governor Hoyt is capable of expelling Quay, who is his master. In all the discussion that has taken place about the pardon of Kemble it has occurred to no one to suggest that Gov. Hoyt would disregard a recommendation of the pardoning board in Kemble's behalf. It is known that there is none of the Roman virtue about him that would lead him to give his friend over to justice, and the only surprising thing about his connection with the matter has been the fact that he has stumbled upon an attorney general who had so much self-respect as to refuse to be the instrument of these self-confessed criminals and to decline the heavy bribe with which they would have seduced him from his plain duty.

If Pennsylvania had not been before now so deeply disgraced by the evil character of its officials, the fact that such a scoundrel as Quay filled the secretaryship of state would be very mortifying, but we have got so used to the sensation that it has lost the power to disturb us. With the fatalists of the world we exclaim, "It is the will of God!" And we resign ourselves to the contempt of the world, knowing that we deserve it and feeling powerless to avoid it. Just how long the people of the state will endure that it should be such a spectacle among its sisters we dare not say. They have endured so much villainy in high places that it is not easy to say what quantity or degree of it will disgust them. They may not be moved even by the scandal of the contempt cast by the bribery convicts upon the courts of justice, and the horrible revelation that they plead guilty because they were promised an immediate pardon before entering the walls of the jail.

All these convicts tell this story. "Do you think," says one, "that we would not have taken the chance of escape offered by a trial, if we had not been promised a pardon?" And it appears that they could not have lost more by a trial than they now lose if they are not pardoned. But there were others that would have suffered. Among them was Quay. The pardon offered needed the concurrence of the governor and of Quay, Palmer and Dunkel; all were anxious to give it but Palmer. They counted too surely on bulldozing him. Knowing the influence they commanded they did not think that he would dare to resist. They promised Kemble and deceived him. He declines to take any more chances and proposes to escape a jail by staying out of the state until Palmer can be got out of the attorney generalship after the election. This is the spectacle offered to the people. Will it disgust them?

SENATOR VOORHEES thinks that West Point cadets were very bad boys and much addicted to brutal practices. He expresses surprise that the cadets live through the experiments they are called upon to undergo. He seems to refer to the tyranny practised by the older cadets towards the members of the first class, and the tales that are told of their performances are certainly startling to people who do not look at things through West Point spectacles. Generally the cadets themselves applaud these peculiar practices, even while they suffer from them. They accept them as established customs of the institution, calculated to teach them Spartan endurance, and fair enough all around, since, as the years roll on, the persecuted becomes in turn a persecutor. If the young men like the fun, and both victims and victimizers are content, Senator Voorhees wastes his sympathy upon them. There is, however, in West Point management, a legitimate field for his indignation, and it lies in the tyranny of the government. Cadet life is supposed to be happy; it is in fact anything else. The cadets are closely confined for four years upon a few acres of ground, and the restrictions put upon them give their life as close a resemblance to a penitentiary existence as can well be imagined.

THE Northern Pacific railroad encounters formidable opposition in Congress to the granting of its demand for the extension of the time for the completion of the road, which expires next January. No good reason exists why this additional time should be given. The aid which the government has already given the road and which it has utilized has been enough to set it on its feet and it ought to be able to take care of itself. Of course if the nation will give it still further assistance it will be very welcome to the owners of the stock and the speculators who have already made so much money out of it. They should be content with the profits already realized from the immense advance in the price of the stock. If the nation wants to make a gift to anybody connected with the railroad, who took its stock from Jay Cooke and saw it become almost valueless in their hands. The present

holders of the stock have no claim on the nation's generosity. The lands they demand should be reserved for the benefit of the national treasury.

THE INTELLIGENCER has published already seven or eight columns of the comments of its contemporaries upon Judge Patterson's opinion in the disbarment case. They represent Republican, Democratic, Independent and neutral journals, and almost uniformly condemn the action of the court, not because of any political sympathy with or without interest in the editors of the INTELLIGENCER, but because the position of Judge Patterson involves a travesty of constitutional law, an anomaly in jurisprudence, and a blow at the freedom of the press and the independence of the bar. These comments have been read with interest, and when we tell our readers that we have twenty columns additional of this matter clipped from our exchanges, they can form an idea of the wide-spread importance attaching to the case. It is manifestly impossible, however, for the INTELLIGENCER to accommodate the republication of these expressions of popular sentiment without enlarging or publishing an extra, and hereafter we shall be obliged to print only such portions of the views of our contemporaries as fairly express the gist of their opinion.

JUDGE PATTERSON has had a week to find out "what the people think of his opinion." We are satisfied if he is.

PERSONAL.

PROCTOR KNOTT is of the opinion that Tilden is not the best man for the Democratic nomination.

General GRANT visited Mobile yesterday accepted the hospitalities of the cotton exchange, afterward held a reception for colored people at the United States court room and returned to New Orleans last night.

SAMUEL J. TILDEN sent his check for \$5,000 to Eugene Kelly & Co. yesterday, with the request that it be forwarded to the account of the Duchess of Marlborough Irish relief fund. This is Mr. Tilden's second contribution. The first was also \$5,000.

The ex-Empress EUGENIE, before starting for Zululand, presented her imperial crown to the church of Notre Dame des Victoires, Paris. It is of great value on account of its artistic composition and the number of precious stones it contains. She left it behind, with most of her valuables, in her hurried flight from the Tuilleries, but in the subsequent arrangement of her affairs, after the commune, it was restored to her.

The Democratic county committee meeting in York yesterday was a particularly full one and considerable feeling prevailed. All resolutions were tabled, and there was no expression of presidential preference. W. F. Bay Stewart was elected senatorial delegate; A. W. Dietrich, John J. Hiestand, John Geisley and William Heltzel, representative delegates. They will all support CHAS. F. BLACK for delegate to the national convention.

Mrs. FRANCES HODGSON BURNETT, the novelist, has gone to Niagara Falls to have her foot on Canadian soil when her new novel, "Lionel Lincoln," is published in London, so as to get the benefit of the British copyright law. She will stay only so long as this object requires, and on her return she proposes to take her first glimpse at New England, staying for a few days with friends in Springfield. Mrs. Burnett is now engaged on a new work, the publication of which will probably begin in Scribner's Magazine next autumn.

Altoona Star: "The suggestion of the name of Hon. A. H. Hill, of Union county, for the position of chairman of the state Democratic committee seems, as it should, to meet with general favor. The gallant leader of the Democracy in the last gubernatorial contest; the representative of no faction; brave, generous and capable, he is the man to harmonize and consolidate all jarring and conflicting interests in the party and lead it in an invincible and unbroken phalanx to a grand victory."

The queen of England cannot move from her little isle without rumors of marriage being aloft. In England as well as in Germany it is thus now believed that a marriage is in contemplation between the Princess BEATRICE and the Duke of Baden, because the queen and princess are going to remain a short time in that most intoxicating of European watering places, Baden-Baden. But as the queen and princess are said to be afterwards coming to spend a month in Italy in the charming villa which they visited last year, it is here rumored that the Princess Beatrice is going to be married to Prince Thomas of Savoy. Last year she was, according to rumors, to be married to Prince Amadeo, King Humbert's brother, who is a widower and ex-king of Spain.

A DASTARDLY CRIME.

An Aged Female Murderously Assaulted by a Housebreaker.

Mrs. Rachel Smith, a widow, aged seventy years, who resides alone with her daughter on the Greensburg pike, near Adamsburg, Westmoreland county, was probably die from injuries received at the hands of an unknown man, supposed to be a burglar, who forced his way into the house by battering down the door. The daughter escaped by jumping through a window to the porch and rolling off to the ground, falling a distance of twelve feet and sustaining serious though not fatal injuries. She gave the alarm and the neighbors hurried to the house, there to find Mrs. Smith weltering in her blood, unconscious and with a deep gash in her head. The would-be murderer, however, had fled and has not yet been captured. Considerable money was known to be in the house and doubtless prompted the deed.

Nobody's Chattel.

Northern Tier Reporter.

The Democratic party of the state of Pennsylvania or of any other state in the Union is not a personal chattel. Our Republican friends may boast of their Camerons and their Conklings, but the Democracy want no such leaders. A party to be successful should dictate to its captains and not follow the lead of an ambition prompted by selfishness. Were it not for these things, Pennsylvania would be Democratic to-day, and her vote be given beyond all adventure to the nominee of the Cincinnati convention this fall. The delegates to the state convention, which convenes this day, have an important duty to perform and an independence to express which may reflect honor to themselves and injury to the success of their political principles.

MINOR TOPICS.

The centennial anniversary of the birth of Dr. Thomas Chalmers has been observed with much enthusiasm in Scotland. It is proper that Presbyterians in the United States should take some notice of an event of so much interest to the whole church.

EX-GOVERNOR EDWIN D. MORGAN has not only given \$100,000 to purchase a library for the Union theological seminary, in New York, but he has presented \$25,000 to the eye and ear infirmary, and has donated liberal sums for extinguishing the indebtedness of Dr. Spring's old brick church society. His friends say that he has given a quarter of a million dollars for charitable purposes within a year.

THE "Jerusalem Chamber" in Westminster Abbey is a place of great historical interest. There sat the Westminster assembly when forming the confessions and catechisms which Presbyterians accept—there sat convocation when busy with the revised prayer book—and then in our days the gathering of divines and scholars who are diligently revising the English version of the Holy Scriptures. It is a famous chamber.

The Moravian complains that the statistics of its church have not been correctly given in some quarters. It says: "The Moravian church in this country had a membership of 9,491 at the close of 1879, an increase of 84 on the number for the previous year. The scholars in the Sunday schools number 8,820, an increase of 303." Previous statistics gave the membership as 8,212 and the number of the scholars as 7,863, thus excluding the membership of the Southern province.

It does not appear likely that the coming Methodist general conference will take any action concerning modification of the system of itinerancy. Thus far only one annual conference, the New York East, has recommended any change, and although the conviction is rapidly gaining ground that a change permitting longer pastorates is desirable, the friends of the movement do not believe that a very large minority of the general conference would vote for it.

THE dual funeral at Calvary church, New York, on Wednesday, of Herman D. Aldrich and Robert H. McCurdy, two of the oldest merchants in that city, has been announced. They came to New York early in this century—one from Connecticut and the other from Orange county, New York. They found employment together, and after reaching their majority went into the dry goods business with a partner. In 1857 the two senior members drew out with \$1,000,000 each and retired, living in adjoining houses. Mr. McCurdy died on Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock, and Mr. Aldrich on the same afternoon at 3 o'clock. Death in both cases was the result of heart disease, and the former was kept in ignorance of the latter's death. They were interred in adjoining lots.

THE New York Observer says: "We are entering upon a fierce political campaign. At present the fight is as to the men who shall lead the contending forces. In a few weeks the two parties will be in battle array. The pulpit has its part to perform. It is not a disinterested factor. But if the pulpit has brains as well as heart, a conscience and judgment as well as feeling, it will employ its power to calm the passions, to restrain the rashness and suppress the violence of the hour. It is not our business to dictate in matters of taste or any other, and we know very well that every minister will judge for himself as to how much of politics he will mingle with the gospel in his pulpit. To his own Master he stand and falls. But to our minds there is something surpassingly becoming in a preacher of the everlasting gospel, professing to know nothing save Jesus Christ and Him crucified, courting the applause of the pews by preaching a man for political office, though that office be the highest on earth."

Hopeless Ignorance Enlightened.

Philadelphia Times, Ind.

The public press is generally taking a hand in "trying" Judge Patterson for disbarment. They mostly bring him in "guilty" of doing what he ought not to have done, which may be true, but it is a pity that the public press should be so generally so ignorant as to be so sure of their ground. It is a pity that the public press should be so generally so ignorant as to be so sure of their ground. It is a pity that the public press should be so generally so ignorant as to be so sure of their ground.

The foregoing is the nearest an apology or excuse for Judge Patterson's summary dismissal of Messrs. Steinman and Hensel from the bar, that we have noticed in any of the public journals which have discussed the subject. We quote it merely to correct what seems to be the penitential submission of the lawyer-editor of the Examiner. It is barely possible that the supreme court may construe the act of 1836 as Judge Patterson construes it. It is the business of the public press to interpret laws and not to enact them, and there may be such severe construction of laws to preserve the harmony of judicial construction throughout a complete system of legal jurisprudence; but no lawyer or editor who isn't stone blind in his reasoning faculties will opine for a moment that the supreme sovereign authority of the state will not promptly reverse the supreme court, should the despotic judicial powers assumed by Judge Patterson be sustained. The Legislature certainly believed that the act of 1836 protected the freedom of the press in exactly such cases as that of Steinman and Hensel, and if the law shall be technically perverted to strike at the very corner-stone of our freedom of the press, the Legislature will promptly revise the powers of the judges, as it has been compelled to revise them several times in the past. The courts and the press are two of the most essential attributes of our boasted civilization, and each has distinctive duties and prerogatives. The judges must have the amplest power to enforce process and to maintain their dignity and authority, and the press must have the amplest freedom in the legitimate criticism of judicial as well as all other public wrongs. There is no conflict between them, save when judicial ignorance or arrogance attempts to silence freedom of discussion, and the rights of both will be jealously guarded by the people of the commonwealth.

The Ring of Good Metal.

Cambridge Freeman.

At the convention of the Democracy of Erie county last week the following sensible resolution was adopted: "Resolved, That we condemn and denounce the tyrannical practice of compelling a state delegate to accept of a nomination to vote as a unit for any candidate, because it ignores the right of the minority and transforms each delegate from an independent and true representative of the

people into a gagged and manacled one-man tool. And that we earnestly request the Erie county delegates to the ensuing Democratic state convention to use every honorable effort to secure an unimpaired delegation of wise, able and independent men to the national convention at Cincinnati."

If other counties would imitate the example which has been set by Erie, it would simplify matters amazingly at the state convention, and we would possibly not hear any more silly talk about "Wallace men," or "Randall men," or any other man's men, but only of men who, above and beyond all other considerations, are devoted to the triumphant success of the Democratic party.

ST. PETER'S HANDWRITING.

The Story of a Manuscript Said to Have Been Written by the Fisher of Galilee.—Proof of Its Antiquity.

The British and Foreign Bible society deny the allegations of certain Italian papers that they have sent out a commission to inquire into the authenticity of a manuscript supposed to be written by Peter the apostle, or that they have ever offered any sum for its possession. The alleged manuscript appears in the *Conte di Casale*, Protestant Evangelical journals published at Rome, and, according to their statement, was copied by them from the *Sabbath*, an organ of the Jewish community printed at Jerusalem, where the manuscript written by the head of the Apostles Peter is said to have been discovered. On July 13, 1879, so runs the account, there died in Jerusalem, in the 110th year of his age, a reputed poor man of the name of Core. For fifty years he had led the life of a mendicant in a grotto at the foot of the hill of Gethsemane, enjoying for the greater part of that period a saintly reputation and looked upon by Christians as one of the holiest of men, as in outward appearance he was one of the poorest. When his death became known it was ascertained that no kinsfolk claimed his effects and that he had left no will, the local authorities took possession of his grotto. On entering they were surprised to find it furnished with considerable luxury. Magnificent tiger skins, where it had been covered over by anchorites' beds was composed of costly furs. Underneath the skins a trap-door was discovered, leading to an underground apartment, sixteen feet square and twelve feet high. In one corner of this room stood an iron bound casket, closed with a key. The door was broken open, and out rolled a stream of broad pieces of various dates, countries and denominations English sovereigns and shillings, French gold and silver, Turkish sequins and Mexican dollars, of a total value, as was estimated, of \$3,000. The same was supposed to be the produce of the alms and oblations which the holy man had received from the credulous faithful during the half century of his saintly seclusion from the world. At the very bottom of the casket, where it had been covered over by the hermit's treasure, a still more important find was made—a packet wrapped up in old and almost rotten newspapers. These papers contained a splendid and antique cashmere shawl of great value, though the shawl was injured by damp. Inside the shawl were divers documents from which it appeared that the deceased anchorite was a Hebrew, belonging to a rich family of Stockholm. Among these documents was a voluminous papyrus manuscript, folded in Greek, so old that when touched it became dry.

The manuscript bore the following inscription: "Peter the fisherman, disciple of Jesus the Son of God, and confessor of his faith, speaks to the people of his time who listen to the word of the Lord, according to the love, and in the name of the most holy God."

The subscription to the manuscript, "written in a style equally strange and elegant," runs thus: "Peter the fisherman, in the name of God, finished the writings of the word of love in the fiftieth year of my age, the third Easter after the death of my Saviour and Master, Jesus Christ, son of Mary, in the house of Bethel, the scribe, near the temple of the Lord. The papyrus of the manuscript is described as being strong and flexible and the ink very black, from which it was first supposed that it might be the work of Core, but scholars and experts at Jerusalem, by whom the writing has been examined, and searching examination, are of opinion that no man of this age could write old Hebrew so pure in style with such an intimate knowledge of the meaning of many obsolete words and so complete a mastery of the Hebrew language. The character of the literature of the epoch in which the new epistle purports to have been produced. A further proof of its antiquity is that the papyrus of the manuscript has long ceased to be made. To solve the doubts which still remained as to the genuineness of the document, the account goes on to say that the Bible society of London were asked to send out a commission to look into the matter and deliver judgment. This was done, and after long and anxious consideration, it was pronounced in favor of the authenticity of Core's papyrus. They considered it to be the veritable work of the Apostle Peter. It was added that the philosophical, philological, historical and biblical questions raised by the document were of the highest importance and interest.

LATEST NEWS BY MAIL. Baseball—At Washington: Providence, 4, National, 4, eight innings.

There is at present quite an exodus of the young men of Halifax, N. S., to the United States.

The Mobile fire department yesterday celebrated its forty-second anniversary by a parade.

The Duchess of Marlborough's Irish relief fund now amounts to the sum of £107,891, of which the sum of £26,622 has been expended.

Baron Von Hoffman, at his own request, has been relieved of his functions as Aus. Hon. Minister of Finance, and Herr Szlavy has been appointed his successor.

The St. Louis Young Men's Christian association have purchased for the purpose of their organization, the Union Methodist church.

Eliza Reund was arrested on Thursday, at College Point, N. Y., charged with the murder of her daughter's infant child by drowning it in a mill pond at Syosset.

The body of the peddler indicated foul play, but one could be obtained of the murderer. On Monday last, Marks, the hotel keeper, died a natural death, and it is now known as a fact that before he died he made a full confession that he and a neighbor of his named Weidler, had murdered the peddler, and subsequently thrown him into the creek.

The three men had been gambling at the hotel, the peddler winning from both. When leaving, Marks and Weidler dealt him blows from behind, killed and robbed him, and threw his body into the creek. Great excitement prevailed. Weidler is not to be found.

About the only truth in it is that George Marks died recently. There was a drover who disappeared in that section some thirty years ago, and there has long been a vague rumor that he was murdered; Marks's death revived the rumor; he made no confession. Weidler has been dead for years. The affair creates little excitement in the neighborhood now, as it is regarded as only a periodical revival of the old story.

In Constantinople, Savas Pasha demands the surrender of an American citizen whom the United States consul-general recently sentenced to imprisonment for manslaughter.

The failure of Governor Hamilton to sign the law recently passed by the Maryland Legislature will possibly necessitate an extra session of that body.

Nineteen warehouses at Chicago have a total storage capacity of 15,000,000 bush-

els. There are eleven grades of winter wheat, ten of spring wheat, nine of corn, five of oats, four of rye and ten of barley to be harvested.

The Spanish Congress has approved the decree fixing the strength of the permanent army in Cuba at 40,000 men. Congress has also limited the floating debt of Cuba to \$6,000,000, except in the event of an emergency.

Thomas and Jeanette Clark were arrested in Buffalo for abusing the latter's mother, aged 94 years. They locked her up in a cold room for hours, broke her arm, kicked and beat her, and in other ways abused her. The woman was covered with bruises.

A project is on foot among leading and wealthy Democrats of Chicago to start a two-cent morning newspaper on a permanent basis. Mayor Harrison is still to be one of the interested ones. Arrangements are expected to be complete for its issue in about three weeks.

In the 75-hour pedestrian contest in Amsterdam, N. Y., for the championship medal and \$300 in gold, at 11 o'clock last night the score stood: Campana, 205 miles; Dufuran, 208; Layton, 164; O'Donnell, 193; Winn, 152; and Mahony, 200. The contest was begun on April 7, at 8 p. m.

SECRETARY OF STATE QUAY.

His Dismissal Petitioned for Because of His Connection with the Riot Bill Bribery.

A petition to Governor Hoyt asks him to dismiss Secretary of State Quay, and to resist the removal of Attorney General Palmer who refuses to recommend Kemble's pardon. The petition gives the following extracts from the testimony taken before the legislative investigating committee, pages 26, 28, 91, relative to Quay's connection with the bribery conspiracy: Mr. Quay's Note to Mr. Emery, Requesting Him to Call and "See" Him.

Harrisburg, April 16, 1879.—My Dear Sir: I am told the Allegheny resolution is now up in the House. It will be a finality, of course, if the motion to reconsider is defeated, and it will be difficult to make any arrangement with my friends, if they are successful. If it is at all worth while to present Mr. Shiras's proposition to the council, you had better have the vote upon the motion to reconsider postponed until afternoon, and see me after the adjournment. Yours truly, M. S. QUAY.

The Corrupt Proposition Communicated Through Mr. Emery.

Testimony of Lewis Emery, jr., to that in case you voted for the riot bill the Pennsylvania railroad would give the oil men all the legislation they desired? A. He said, sir, that if they would assist in the passage of the bill that he would guarantee—that he felt assured that he could all the guarantee—the passage of the anti-discrimination bill and free pipe bill, and would kill the oil tax; that there would be no tax upon pipelines and further than that, that he would see that the interstate commerce bill was passed if possible; that they had now power enough to do it.

Q. We did not understand you to say that the Pennsylvania railroad—A. I say that I had learned before I left there that the Pennsylvania railroad was making this proposition.

Mr. Quay Urges the Corrupt Proposition on Mr. Emery's Attention.

Lewis Emery, jr., (sworn with uplifted hand): I went to my dinner, at the Leobell hotel, and as I came out from dinner the clerk in the office told me that Mr. Quay would like to see me, and he says: I will send for him; he sent to the billiard room and Mr. Quay came and we sat in the window, right next to the big safe, where we hang coats behind the door, and I said to him that I had received his notes; he said, yes, he had received mine in reply, and that we were in such a condition we could not do anything on the proposition that had been made to us. Well, says he, I was at Philadelphia a week ago last Saturday, and I was up to Mr. Cassatt's office to get some papers; while there Mr. Cassatt brought up the conversation; he said that he would be very much pleased if he would assist in passing the riot bill, and that they were very anxious to have it passed, and he wished he could see what he could do with the oil delegation to get their assistance, and he said that he would do so, and he said that he would see that all the propositions that had been made to us would be carried out, providing we would support the bill when it came up again. Says I, it is dead.

What Secretary Quay Wanted to Know. Well, says he, perhaps not; perhaps it can be revised, and what I would like to know, in case it is revised, is as to whether we could get any assistance from your country, and I told him that I thought he could not get it up in the House. He says he didn't know. Says I, I believe you do know. I believe you can pass that bill in the House; I believe there are too many independent men in the House to pass the measure; it even could not be gotten up again. I told him it didn't matter where it came up, I could not support the bill in the House; and he said I better take the matter before our people, our delegation, and see if they would not consider it, and I told him I would, and on the evening of the 17th, I think it was, I submitted the proposition again to the delegation. I think the majority of them altogether and they said that they would not consider any overtures whatever that if they had got to be punished with an oil tax because they would not support the bill, why they would submit; they would rebuke their friends a particle. The riot bill could stay where it was.

Mr. Quay Endorses Mr. Emery's Testimony. Hon. M. S. Quay, sworn.

"* * * The testimony of Mr. Emery, I think, is nearly correct. I have taken it from the newspaper reports and I believe it is correct, with the exception of one or two unimportant particulars."

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

That "Murder Confession" The following despatch, sent through the associated press yesterday is only a repetition of a similar one sent a few days ago:

New York, April 9.—A Reading, Pa., special despatch states:—Some time ago the dead body of a traveling peddler was found in a creek near New Holland, Lancaster county. A few days previously he had stopped at the inn of George Marks, the body of the peddler indicated foul play, but one could be obtained of the murderer. On Monday last, Marks, the hotel keeper, died a natural death, and it is now known as a fact that before he died he made a full confession that he and a neighbor of his named Weidler, had murdered the peddler, and subsequently thrown him into the creek.

The three men had been gambling at the hotel, the peddler winning from both. When leaving, Marks and Weidler dealt him blows from behind, killed and robbed him, and threw his body into the creek. Great excitement prevailed. Weidler is not to be found.

About the only truth in it is that George Marks died recently. There was a drover who disappeared in that section some thirty years ago, and there has long been a vague rumor that he was murdered; Marks's death revived the rumor; he made no confession. Weidler has been dead for years. The affair creates little excitement in the neighborhood now, as it is regarded as only a periodical revival of the old story.

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

By Nick Roberts's Fantomine Company. Last evening there was a very large audience present in Fulton opera house to see the pantomime of "Humpty Dumpty" as presented by Nick Roberts's company. The house was full in every part except the parquette. In the pantomime three clowns appeared. They were very active and their tricks were good, but neither of them can compare with George H. Adams, the clown who visits Lancaster so often with Tony Denier. The colubine and harlequin were both good and many of the tricks were new and well worked. The baby elephant and the alligator were very funny. In the first act the three clowns were seen, but afterwards there were but two. It is usual in pantomimes for the clown and pantaloon to do the funny business, but last night nearly all the fun was created by two of the clowns, who acted together, and the pantaloon was seldom seen after the first act. Between the acts of "Humpty Dumpty" a variety show was given. Miss Mabel Pearl sang in good style, and she was followed by Jennie Maceo in a well-executed skipping rope dance. The acrobat and bar performance by a number of athletes was very fine, and especially that of the contortionist. The act of El Nino Eddie, who is said to be one of the best tight rope performers in the world, was simply wonderful. The troupe appears tonight in Reading.

Marietta Matters. The Register broke its press a few days ago and Jos. H. Huber, of this city, made the necessary repairs.

A fair for the benefit of St. Mary's Catholic church, of which Father Russell is pastor, will commence in the church building this evening.

Since last week, the prospects of a large spring business on the river have been anticipated by the rise of the river to an excellent rafting stage, and a large number of rafts are reported as being on their way to this place.

Yesterday, at noon, there were about twenty timber and spar rafts lying along the shores on this and the York county side. Every one here is anticipating a large run this season, with prices almost double of what they were last spring.

Yesterday morning the wife of Mr. Harry C. Erb, living to the west of town, about a half-mile, fell through the floor of a cistern into the water, and would not doubt have drowned had it not been for the timely assistance of Mr. John Montgomery, who happened to be passing by and heard the cries of the children. Mrs. Erb supported herself above the water by holding her arms around the stock of the pump, and was very weak when taken from the cistern by Mr. Montgomery and some of the neighbors.

The hands of the pilots at this place are demanding \$3, clear for each trip down the river, which is about 85 cents more than they received last year, when they were given \$3.50 and had to pay expenses out of that sum. The expenses are about \$5 cents for fare and 50 cents for dinner at Peach Bottom, making in all \$1.35, or 85 cents more than was paid last season. We have not heard that any arrangement has been made by the pilots or that they have acceded to the demands of the hands, but if they do a larger sum will have to be charged for taking rafts down, or the pilots will make less money than they have heretofore.

Narrow Escape. Miss Haddis Ringwalt, daughter of Major Wm. Ringwalt, of Churetown, made a terribly narrow escape from being burned to death by the bursting of a coal oil lamp. She had gone to her room, and setting the lamp on a bureau, attempted to blow it out, when it exploded with a loud report, the glass and burning oil flying all over the room, setting fire to the carpet, the young lady's clothing and the bureau cover. The inmates of the house hearing the report, ran to her assistance and soon extinguished the flames by smothering them with carpets. The young lady had her face and arms seriously cut by the flying glass, and was somewhat burned, though not seriously. Had it not been for the speedy assistance rendered by Miss Ringwalt's father she must certainly have lost her life, and the house might also have been burned.

Organization of Committees. The following committees of city councils have organized: Finance Committee—Geo. W. Zecher, president; J. K. Barr, clerk. Water Committee—Mayor MacGonigle, ex officio president; Byron J. Brown, clerk. Market Committee—Wm. D. Sprenger, president; Edw. Welch, city treasurer, ex officio clerk.

The street committee will not organize until Tuesday evening, and the members of the printing and lamp committees have been called together for Monday evening. The water committee adjourned to meet again Thursday evening next, when an engineer of water works will be elected.

Good Product.

The rail mill of the Pennsylvania steel company produced, Thursday night, in less than twelve hours, 936 finished steel rails, of the aggregate length of 5 miles, 552 yards, and weighing 208½ tons. The day shift had previously turned out 832 rails, which is believed to surpass the product of any other mill, but the production of 936 rails certainly gives the banner to this mill. The average time to roll each rail, for the entire twelve hours, is but 46 seconds per rail.

Sale of Bank Stock, Bonds and Live Stock. Samuel Hess & Son, auctioneers, sold at private sale 29 shares Farmers' national bank stock, at \$95 per share, four \$1000 first mortgage Quarryville seven per cent. railroad bonds at \$105 and the accrued interest. Total amount \$4,893.

Samuel Hess & Son, auctioneers, sold at public sale yesterday, at Bird-in-Hand, Lancaster county, Pa., for C. Hull, 8 head of horses at an average of \$102.25 per head.

The First Colored Innmate. Major B. F. Cox, superintendent of the county hospital, on Thursday took from the almshouse to the children's home a colored child named Book, and handed it over to the managers of the home. This is the first colored child ever admitted to the home.

Mayor's Court. Before Mayor MacGonigle this morning there was one drunken and disorderly person committed for 30 days and four vagrants discharged.

Sale of Tobacco. M. Gershel & Bro., tobacco packers, North Water street, this city, have sold their entire packing of 1879 tobacco on private terms.

Killed by an Explosion. A Terrible Accident Near Downingtown—Several Workmen Killed or Injured. A frightful premature explosion occurred on Thursday evening on the work of straightening the Pennsylvania railroad, near the bridge over Valley creek, east of Downingtown. Nearly two hundred men are employed there, the work being pushed with the utmost energy, and twenty-five were engaged at rock cutting with a steam drill. Desirous of making the best progress possible, the boss, John Powers,